Canadian Rose Society

2011 Annual

THE CANADIAN ROSE SOCIETY ANNUAL 2011

Christine Moore

EDITOR

Cover Photograph

Amelia Fleming: Floribunda, Hardy to zone 6, Height 4', single pink flower with prominent stamens. Very fragrant. 1994
Photo from Joyce Fleming

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This is my first ’Annual’ and I’ve tried to cover a variety of subjects in this issue. There is a visit with two successful rose breeders. Many of you will know Joyce Fleming, a private breeder in the Niagara area of Ontario, working in her own garden to produce new roses. In contrast is Quebec native, Christian Bédard, working in California for Week's Roses.

Special thanks must be made to Elizabeth Schleicher who responds to my requests for photos at lightening speed. Thanks also to Carol Martin for sharing her garden story with us and to Anne and Paul Graber for sharing their garden and knowledge so freely. I would love to hear from more west coast gardeners and have French language contributions.

There are a few things missing from this 'Annual'. The 'Clearing House' (a review by members of roses in their gardens) is absent as Richard Chambers has had some health problems this year. The minutes of the Annual General Meeting have not been included, but will be sent with the AGM package next year. 'Roses in Research' is not included as I didn't receive them. Please let me know if you are interested and I’ll include them next year.

Due to current ‘Privacy Laws’, the current list of CRS judges and ’Rose Consultants’ is not included and our list of ‘Display Gardens’ is being updated.

Please note that there are two editions of this ‘Annual’. The version on the CD is in the 81/2” x 11” format. If you choose to order a hard copy, it is in the 5 1/2” x 8 1/2” and stapled in the centre. An order form was included with the CD. The color photos in the hard copy are in the centre of the book. In the CD version, the photos appear with the article they are part of **and there are more color photos in the CD version.**

Christine Moore

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1943-45	Activities Suspended	1992-93	Mrs. Doreen Stanton
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1948-49	Mr. A.J. Webster	1994	Mrs. Doreen Stanton
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1952-53	Miss Mabel Stoakley	1996-97	Mrs. Barbara Clarke
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1956-57	Mr. F.F. Dutton	2000-01	Mrs. Elizabeth Schleicher
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1966-67	Judge M.A. Cadsby	2011	Ms. Christine Moore

C.R.S SUSTAINING MEMBERS—2012

The Canadian Rose Society would like to thank the following Members and others for their generous support this past year.

Mr and Mrs. Ken Flood
Mrs. June Laver
Mr. Phillip Webster
Anne Richardson
Doreen Stanton
Mr. P. Philos
Mr. S. Young

An essential source of income for the Canadian Rose Society is the membership fees, which are paid by you, the members. But like most organizations this income is not sufficient to enable the Society to do everything that it would like to do, and should do, to promote the rose in Canada. Many members give an additional amount to help the Society cover this difference, and by so doing they become sustaining members.

If you would like to give a donation to the CRS of any amount you can either include it with your annual membership renewal or contact the Treasurer, Ken McFarquhar, 145 Catalina Dr. West Hill, ON M1E 1B3 .

An income tax receipt will be issued for your additional contribution of $10.00 or more. The Canadian Rose Society thanks you most sincerely for your donation.

President's Address

What a year! When I joined the board in late 2009 with the idea of helping with publications I certainly had no idea I would end 2011 as your President. I can assure you the CRS board has been working hard to develop ideas to keep your society relevant and fresh. As a result our membership has increased nearly 50% this year!

We have some new things in store for 2012 and are always interested in your ideas and suggestions. In fact is, I think it was an e-mail from Paul Olsen that put me in touch with Canadian-born hybridizer Christian Bédard.

Every group relies on volunteers and as a national society many of ours are just a name on a page to most of you. I can assure you that none of our volunteers have extra time. We all have families whose care we are involved in, some of us still work but we make time to help the CRS and consequently, help you enjoy your roses. Please think about getting involved. From my own experience, it was not until I got involved in my local society that I really started to learn about roses.

I would be remiss not to thank:
Patrick White for all his work on our website.
Barbara Munton and Doreen Stanton for there dedicated work on our Membership.
Ken McFarquhar for keeping our books in order.
Iris Hazen for passing along internet information.
Elizabeth Schliecher, Ethel Freeman, Paul and Anne Graber and Ken and Rachel Flood, Shari-Lyn Safir for their continued moral support

I would like to meet more of you and hear about your gardens, either via telephone, skype or e-mail.

Sharing your love of roses,

Sincerely

Christine Moore

LOCAL ROSE SOCIETIES IN CANADA

Vancouver Rose Society – Greater Vancouver area, B..C.
adalea@shaw.ca
Website: www./vancouverrosesociety.org

Fraser Pacific Rose Society - Coquitlam, B.C.
beverlyannewelsh@gmail.com
Website: www.fprosesociety.org

Victoria Rose Club (formerly Peninsular Rose Club) - Victoria & Sidney, BC
calveleyinvictoria@shaw.ca
Website: www.canadaram.com/nurserysite/clubs/peninsular/index.html

Calgary Rose Society – Calgary, Alberta
info@calgaryrosesociety.com
Website: www.calgaryrosesociety.ca

Saskatchewan Rose Society - Saskatchewan
This society is not inactive
Website: http://icangarden.com/clubs/sroses/

The Wm. Saunders Rose Society - Southwestern Ontario, Woodstock and Tillsonburg to Sarnia and Chatham
E-Mail: dominionday@hotmail.com
wm.saundersrose@sympatico.ca
Website: http://www3.sympatico.ca/wm.saundersrose

Golden Triangle Rose and Garden Society – Kitchener/Waterloo, Ontario
This society is currently inactive
Huronia Rose Society – Barrie, Ontario
Website: www.huroniarose.usethis.com
Email for society: huroniarosesociety@usethis.com

Greater Toronto Rose & Garden Society-Toronto, Ontario
GTRoses@aol.com
Website: http://www.interlog.com/~onthort/dist5/yorkrose/gtrgs.html

Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society
h&bsociety@sympatico.ca
Website: http://dir.gardenweb.com/directory/hbrs

Society:Société des Roses du Québec Rose Society - Province de Québec,
President: Diane Vigneault
E-mail: : diane004@sympatico.ca
Website: www.rosequebec.org

Amateurs de roses de Québec – Ville de Québec ; Quebec City
President: Dr. J. Andre Fortin
E-mail: j.andre.fortin@videotron.ca

PEI Rose Society
This society is currently inactive

Joyce Fleming

Rose Hybridiser

Horticulture was clearly in her genes. Joyce's father, Dr. Harry Upshall, was a Director at Vineland Research Station and they lived in a house on station property. In fact Joyce was born in that home! They always kept a garden; a formal garden with a flagstone path with rose beds in each corner. As a child, she was paid 25 cents to weed the walkway. Later, as a college student, she worked with Dr. Palmer at Vineland, breeding gladiolas and lilies. She married Bob Fleming who served his entire career at the Horticultural Research Institute of Ontario, Vineland Station. His was a Ornamental Scientist and hybridized Ilex (Holly) and Rhododendrons. Together they raised four children and Joyce now enjoys six grandchildren.

Yet as an individual, working in her own garden, in Grimbsy Ontario, Joyce has produced roses which grace gardens across our beautiful country. Among her favorites is a yellow climbing rose called 'Roberta Bondar' after Canada's female astronaut. She has had requests for bud wood from the United States, Poland and Austria. The Montreal Botanical Gardens has a bed of her roses.

Her journey with rose breeding began in 1985 when concerned that not enough attention was being paid to disease resistance. Joyce wanted her roses to grow freely without spraying and to be hardy in a climate like Montreal. Some of her original breeding used species roses as she tried to incorporate their disease resistance. 'Dr. Harry Upshall' is one of those crosses with the pollen parent 'Rosa *foetida*

(photo: Joyce Fleming &
'Roberta Bondar',
by Elizabeth Schleicher)

'Persiana' along with 'Jim Lounsbery' whose pollen came from Rosa *virginiana*. When asked if she worried about species being diploid, she replied that she didn't. She often got seeds and the first generation would be triploid.

Her planning for the year's breeding is minimum although she has received pollen from the United States to try. She begins making her crosses in mid June and finishes by the end of July to give the hips time to ripen. Just before the first frost at the end of October, she harvests the hips and removes the seeds. (The flesh around the seeds inhibits germination.) She treats the seeds with a week solution of bleach and water to ensure they are disease free. The seeds are then stored in damp sand, in plastic wrap placed in the refrigerator for the winter.

As March comes to a close, she plants the seeds in a commercial mix in her small greenhouse. Some will flower in as little as 5 weeks while the rugosa seedlings may take 2 years to bloom. Her first year she may have 30 seedlings. Any showing signs of black spot are quickly eliminated. The second year they graduate to the garden and at this point some do not survive the winter. She will put a tag on any roses she wants to consider and the rest are removed.

When Joyce finds a rose she wants to proceed with the budwood is taken to Hortico Nurseries in Waterdown Ontario. They produce a number of plants and see how it fares in their rose fields. From then the decision is made regarding what roses will continue toward being sold commercially.

Continued on next page

Photo above: Yvonne Alexander
(Elizabeth Schleicher photo)
Below: Jim Lounsbery (Joyce Fleming photo)

Photo left:
'Claire LaBerge'
A cross between
'Jens Munk' x
'Scarbosa'

The fragrant blooms are long lasting.

When asked if she still has any goals as a breeder, she mentioned that the rose she named after her husband, 'Bob Fleming' appears to have vanished. It was a double white, fragrant flower and she would like to produce another. Asking a breeder to name their favorite is like asking a parent which child they prefer, but Joyce is very pleased with 'Roberta Bondar', 'Jim Lousbery' and 'Alberta', all representative of the goals this Canadian breeder set out to attain.

Joyces' roses are available from:

Hortico Inc
723 Robson Road, R.R. #1 Waterdown, Ontario
L0R 2H1
www.hortico.com

Pickering Nurseries Inc
3043 County Road 2, R.R. 1, Port Hope, ON L1A 3V5
1-866-269-9282
www.pickeringnurseries.com

List of Roses

Alberta	1995	
Alexandra Leek		
Amelia Fleming	1994	Floribunda
Bob Fleming		
Brother Sun	1998	
Claire Laberge	2001	Hybrid Rugosa
Clarion Call	1994	Floribunda
Daniel Philip	1999	Floribunda
David Fleming	1996	
Dr. Harry Upshall	1993	Shrub
Eloise	2003	Floribunda
Erin Fleming	1995	Climber
Evelyn Redfern	2002	Floribunda
Glee	2004	Floribunda
Jim Lounsbery	1994	Shrub
King J	1996	Rugosa
Margaret Fleming	1994	Rugosa
Mary Fleming	1994	
Michael Leek	1995	Floribunda
Natasha Maria	1994	Floribunda/ Climber
PALS Niagara	2003	Shrub
Persian Delight	1995	Floribunda
Red Hot Friendship		
Roberta Bondar	1993	Climber
Sheila Fleming	1994	Floribunda
Spirit of Canada	1995	Floribunda
Yvonne Alexander		

Article by Christine Moore

The Historical Significance of 'Knock Out'®

by Pat Shanley

In 2000, a rose was introduced that in a short time would revolutionize rose gardening and succeed in transforming the public's image of the rose from a fussy prima donna to a friendly garden plant. That rose was 'Knock Out'®, created by William J. "Bill" Radler.

For decades, roses had been developing a reputation as being high maintenance plants and, indeed, sadly they were. The talented hybridizers of many generations had given the rose-loving public precisely what they craved most: Hybrid Teas bred for exhibition form. In so doing, however, they had increasingly neglected and eventually forfeited every other characteristic of roses that contribute to making the rose a good garden plant. Regular spray programs became the norm, indeed a necessity, to keep these exhibition form rose plants thriving, but no one at the time thought too much about the other consequences of using these caustic chemicals. Today, however, public awareness has grown about the dangers that can come with chemicals, and, one by one, governments worldwide are banning the use of environmentally harmful chemicals. The day is fast approaching when we will no longer be able to use synthetic fungicides and other chemicals at all in our gardens.

'Knock Out '® is widely used at the Kentucky Horse Park in beds surrounding their statues.

The advent of 'Knock Out'® changed how people garden with roses, for 'Knock Out'® is not only amazingly disease free in just about every region of the U.S., and specifically highly resistant to blackspot where that disease is a nightmare, it is also amazingly trouble free in other respects and reliably produces flush after flush of abundant and colorful blooms over the full season. It is the first modern rose that can compete in today's landscape on a par with other modern landscape plants.

When I started growing roses, over 20 years ago, my first rose bushes were four Hybrid Teas — 'Sterling Silver', 'Tropicana', 'John F Kennedy' and 'Fragrant Cloud'. I knew absolutely nothing about growing roses. I planted, watered, and fertilized them. They leafed out and produced a few blooms that first June.

Then came the heat and humidity of a New York summer — and with it blackspot. As I watched my rose plants drop their leaves, I desperately sought out a solution. I was horrified when I discovered the recommended remedy was spraying caustic fungicides every 7-10 days. I learned how unpleasant it is to don long sleeves, long pants, socks, shoes, a hat, goggles and rubber gloves for spray protection — especially in 90 degree heat with 95% humidity! I sprayed early in the day to avoid the extreme temperatures, but it was still a miserable experience.

How many people have had similar experiences and said, "Forget it! I'll grow something else"? Many, too many, learned to live without roses. So, I watched the decline in popularity of the rose, the Queen of Flowers, with a heavy heart. I used to dream of how wonderful it would be if roses didn't get blackspot and never needed to be sprayed or to receive other extraordinary special care. Then came "Knock Out"® — and for me it was a dream come true!

In my estimation, the introduction of 'Knock Out'® is a watershed event that the rose world has not witnessed since 'Peace' was introduced in 1945 and before that 'La France' in 1867. It changed the benchmark against which roses are judged by the general public, and it changed how people garden with roses. From a technical standpoint, a rose of this degree of maintenance-free growing had not been seen before. 'Knock Out'® needs no spraying to hold its foliage, and no deadheading to rebloom. It is crown hardy to Zone 5A. It blooms from May through November in the Northeast.

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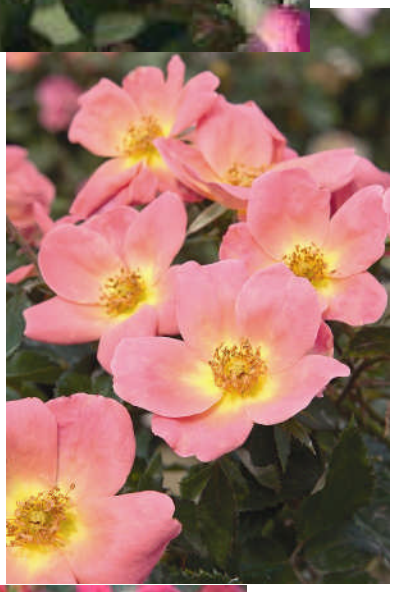

Above:
'Double Pink
Knock Out'®

Right:
'Rainbow Knock Out'®

Below:
'Knock Out'®

These characteristics have made it the dominant rose in today's nursery industry. It is used commercially, as well as residentially, and can be seen everywhere, not only in home gardens but in strip malls, corporate campuses and, indeed, any kind of landscape where consistent color and good foliage are a must. One can safely say that 'Knock Out'® has promoted the visibility of roses. Plantings of it are everywhere — and shouldn't a great plant be in a lot of places? 'Knock Out'® is a rose that anyone can grow. It has become a staple in gardening and, maybe as a bonus, a way to draw the public back to our wonderful hobby. And for gardeners once hooked on roses through 'Knock Out'®, the next natural step is to consider growing other types of roses.

The historical significance of 'Knock Out'® is far reaching. It has set the bar high for hybridizers worldwide. It is currently being used in breeding programs around the world — in France, Germany, the United Kingdom — all over Europe — and even in Asia — especially Japan. Now following on 'Knock Out'®s 10th year, we are seeing a return to growing roses, their incorporation into the landscape as a part of the garden and the promise, too, of a return to growth in membership for our local and national societies as rose growing becomes easier. One hundred years from now, I believe, the rose world will look back on 'Knock Out'® as one of the most significant developments in the evolution of roses toward sustainability.

Bill Radler tells the story of 'Knock Out'®, of how he made multiple crosses on one particular rose but only one hip formed containing one seed. That one seed germinated to become 'Knock Out'®. When asked why he thought this phenomenon occurred then, he answered, "Because the world needed it." And the world of roses does need 'Knock Out'®. The success of 'Knock Out'® benefits all of us — the rose growers, the rose societies, the nurserymen and the botanical gardens — in renewing interest in growing roses. In this day of "green" thinking, 'Knock Out'® gives credence to the idea that roses can be grown that fit into the landscape without damaging the environment. There are many more disease resistant roses coming from the hybridizers, worldwide, and that can only help us more.

Continued on next page

According to Radler, today's hybridizers are working toward the day when roses will no longer be something that only "rose people" can grow. "Roses won't have all the special needs anymore. The Hybrid Tea of the future will no longer be a 'Totem pole' plant, but a full plant with ample stems, shorter than the long stem roses of today. It will not require deadheading or heavy fertilization to rebloom. Work is being done to breed roses for midge resistance, Japanese beetle resistance and late spring frost tolerance." Within the 'Knock Out'® family of roses, 'Sunny Knock Out'® is showing excellent resistance to midge. The hybridizers are also working hard to incorporate fragrance with disease and pest resistance, for who doesn't love a fragrant rose? In essence, we are going to be able to have our cake and eat it too.

Interest in exhibiting roses has also suffered with the overall decline in popularity of the "difficult to grow" rose that requires a spray program. While 'Knock Out'® has generated a renewed interest in exhibiting the Shrub rose class, Hybrid Teas are still what serious exhibitors care about. The Hybrid Teas of the future will hopefully be plants with good disease resistance … fuller plants, with shorter stems. When this transition comes about, the American Rose Society may well need to reexamine the judging standards for showing roses in order to better accommodate these new Hybrid Teas. But I see that as a good thing as well, as it will help to renew interest in rose shows, which benefit our hobby by educating the public on the joys of growing roses.

People no longer wish to spray chemicals to grow a beautiful garden. Roses, including Hybrid Teas, that can produce gorgeous healthy bushes that are attractive — with or without blooms — will be a wonderful addition to any garden, and the hybridizers are working on just this goal. Disease-resistant "Queen of Show" Hybrid Teas will be more popular to grow, and that could very well further the revival of membership in our societies, both local and national. A renewed interest in exhibiting roses among rose hobbyists could in turn lead to increased sales and the success of nurserymen, thus helping to generate a cycle that could give vigor and new life to rose culture in America.

All of this might emerge in time from the coming of a rose that anyone can grow called 'Knock Out'®.

This article is an excerpt from "The Sustainable Rose Garden - A Reader in Rose Culture". The book is available by contacting me at pshanley@aol.com for $34.95 + $4.00 shipping and handling. *For more information see page 25*

Social History of Roses

John Bradshaw

'Reign endless, Rose! for fair you are.
Nor heaven reserves a fairer thing'
Herman Melville, "A Rose or Two"

1979 has been designated "The Year of the Rose", A salute to the Rose, the living symbol of love, friendship and peace.

Roses have been growing on this earth much longer than most people imagine. We've known for the past number of years that they have been around for 35,000,000 years. A fossilized rose, found at Crooked River, Oregon, scientifically established that this aristocrat of the garden is at least that old. However, other Palebotanists have taken it back to the Cretaceous Age, 70,000,000 years ago. This makes the rose far older than any known civilization. Man's oldest ancestor discovered so far is believed to be about 4 1/2 million years old.

The rose has been a favourite of royalty ever since there were kings and queens. The legendary King Midas grew them in his garden. As early as 410 B.C. Herodotus wrote in glowing terms about a rose with 60 petals. In 77 A.D. Pliny, one of the world's first botanists and garden writers catalogued 12 different varieties in his classic Roman book, "Natural History". He even admonished his readers to dig the beds deeply enough to accommodate spreading roots, even as garden writers do today.

Both the Romans and the Greeks made vases by the hundreds of thousands, but didn't place any flowers such as roses in them. They used these containers for storing grain, wine and water.

It was the Romans that gave roses a real place in the gardening world and civilization itself. They went overboard with the use of rose blossoms and petals, particularly in the declining years of the Roman Empire. Their use of them was lavish and fantastic. Roses were strewn on banquet tables, couches, floors, streets and even on lakes.

Nero and Cleopatra used roses so prolifically that they made the Rose Bowl Flower Parade seem like a village flower show. Of the twelve varieties

Continued from pervious page.

grown at the time, probably the most important was the familiar Cabbage Rose. The wonder is that they could have produced

enough roses to supply the demand. Emperor Nero once spent the equivalent of $85,000 on one imperial banquet. That same amount of money would have bought at least a million donkeys.

Members of the Roman aristocracy used roses so prolifically that nurseries were started in Egypt to grow them. They invented the world's first double sailing ship to transport the roses from Alexandria to Rome. The double sail technique worked so well that they were often able to deliver them from Egypt to Rome in five days.

There's a famous Roman Mosaic of the second century A.D. which was found at Hadrian's villa near Tivoli and is now in the Vatican Museum. Just as important as its antiquity is the fact that it's the first representation of a bowl of mixed flowers in history. The basket holds roses, narcissus, Roman hyacinths, a double anemone, tulips, red carnations and a blue morning glory.

George Rose, the secretary of All-American Rose Selections suggests we remember the 'begats' in the Book of Genesis in determining the origination of our modern roses. He goes on to point out that very briefly, our garden roses came into being in the following manner:

Originally all of our garden roses came from the species or wild kinds.
Cross species - and you have a new hybrid type of rose.
Cross this type - and you have another new type, etc.

Rosarians now believe that *Rosa gallica*, the Adam of roses native to the western hemisphere, crossed with *Rosa moschata* begat the Autumn Damask. *Rosa gallica* crossed with *Rosa canina* begat Alba and *Rosa phoenicia* begat Damask. The Damask crossed with Alba begat Centifolia and on and on - begat after begat.

All these western hemisphere crosses yielded roses that were annual bloomers with the exception of Autumn Damask. Strange as it may seem, there are no rose species native to any land areas south of the Equator. In the late 1700's botanists discovered ever blooming roses growing in the gardens of sub-tropical China. Because of their tea-like fragrance they were known as Tea Roses. When the Chinese Tea Rose was crossed with *gallica* descendents, the first result was Boubon. Bourbon crossed With a Tea begat Hybrid Perpetual, the latter crossed back to Tea, begat Hybrid Tea and there you have it. The genealogy of the modern Hybrid Tea is involved with so many begats that to read it is just like scanning the first part of the Book of Genesis and just about as meaningful to the average person.

Modern Roses have generally been conceded to have had their start with the Empress Josephine, consort of Napoleon. During the last five years of the 18th century she bought a rambling house and estate near the tranquil village of Rueil, some sixteen kilometres from Paris. It had been badly neglected for years and the gardens and parkland all about it had become almost a wilderness. While Napoleon was away on one of his many military campaigns, the 'ordinary house' became a charming and most unusual residence, the beautiful Malmaison. Josephine wanted none of the formality of the gardens of the Versailles Gardens, and chose the natural quality of the English gardens of that period. She even had a hothouse built which contained statues and lovely velvet divans which was more like a living room than a greenhouse. Here she was able to grow exotic and beautiful flowers which brought back memories of a happy carefree childhood spent on the Caribbean Island of Martinique.

In the early 1800's when Napoleon divorced her on the pretext of needing a male heir, she retired to Malmaison and turned to horticultre as a solace for her unhappiness. She assembled the leading hybridizers of the day at Malmaison and sponsored their experiments to develop new strains and varieties of roses in their catalogues and by 1827 there were over 2,000.

Josephine spent a fortune on the project, collecting all the known roses of the world for the gardens at Malmaison. Despite the bitterness of the war between France and England, British men-of-war would allow French ships to pass through their blockade when they carried rose plants for Josephine. She died an untimely death in 1814, but many of the roses that came into being because of her interest are still with us.

This article originally appeared in the Canadian Rose Society 1979 Annual

How to Prune Roses (Ouch!) When You're Blind

By Robert P. (Phil) Graham

As a blind gardener, I do like to grow ornamental plants for perfume and texture. That's why I have several varieties of roses in my garden - for the perfume, not for the texture. Every rose has a unique scent depending on the flower colour and parentage. The Tea roses' grandiflora types have showy flowers, but delicate faint perfume. The late spring blooming *Rosa blanda* and 'Therese Bugnet' and similar varieties have the typical wild rose perfume. The Rugosa types have a very sweet rose perfume while the 'Persian Yellow' and 'Harison's Yellow' varieties have a spicy scent - even the leaves have a spicy scent.

As much as I like the smell of roses, pruning roses if you are blind is a challenge! I have to do everything by touch and touching rose bushes can be painful. I don't wear gloves as I have to feel what I am doing. If I am just cutting back the roses in the fall I go about it the same way as the rest of you, with heavy gloves and sharp secateurs. However, removing old and dead stems, thinning out the bush and selecting healthy growth is much more of a challenge. I cannot see what is healthy or dead, so I leave pruning until the leaves are beginning to emerge. I abandon the gloves but still wear a denim or leather jacket to protect my arms.

The Hybrid Tea roses are the easiest to prune despite their large and menacing, but sparse prickles. I don't prune until new growth is evident. I locate a cane with my shears then follow the shears with the other hand until I feel the stem. I follow the stem down until I feel the soft new growth. Then I cut the stem off just above the growth. I do this to all the stems and if I can't feel healthy new growth I remove the stem completely. I start from the outside and work into the centre. After that, the shrub is on its own. I just feel for immature rose hips and remove them throughout the season that often lasts to October. In the late fall I cut back the shrub to about 45 cm (1.5 ft).

Hardy shrub roses are move of a challenge. I like to keep them around 1-2 m (3-6 ft) tall and do this by removing the oldest stems and heading back the longer ones. Again, I do the pruning after the bush has leafed out. At that time, I can tell the dead and weak stems from the vigorous ones. I run my hand over the shrub feeling for dead tips. I pinch the dead tip in my left hand and locate the first healthy sprout, then take my secateurs and trim off the tip. If the stem is dead and has no leaves, I use the secateurs and tap the stem while holding the tip in my left hand so I can feel the vibrations from the tapping. Then I have followed the stem down as far as I can with the secateurs, I hook the curved part of the shears around the stem and cut it off. I ekkp doing this around the bush until I have all the dead tips and stems removed. To further thin out the shrub, I first feel for old stem stubs that have been cut back a couple of years before. They are generally rotten enough to be broken out with a good tug. This gives me more room to feel for the older thick stems. Again, I work from the outside toward the centre and try to locate the stems 3 years or older. I have developed just the right lightness of touch to feel where the stems are without getting pricked too badly.

Once a stem is located I hook the secateurs around the stem and squeeze. To access the stems near the centre of larger bushes I part the rose down the centre using my denim covered left arm and locate the older stems with my right. The old stems are much more rigid than the newer growth and I can usually find them with the tip of the secateurs. After I have removed the old and dead material, I go over the shrub, balancing up the shape, and heading back the longer stems. This has to be done just after the leaves have emerged so the spring blooming roses have time to develop flower buds.

The Rugosa types are more difficult as even the tips have fine sharp prickles that are hard to avoid. But the most difficult are the yellow varieties with their downward curving prickles. The reflex when you feel the prick of a prickles is to pull back, but this will just embed the prickle deeper and these prickles do tend to hurt for several days. I use a stick or handle to push aside interfering branches, if I have to reach deep inside this type of rose bushes.

During the rest of the summer I run by hands lightly over the outside of the bush removing hips and feeling for dead leaves. I have noticed some fire blight infection, so I can usually fell the crisp dead leaves in the summer. In fall, if I have missed any infected stems, the diseased ones will still have dead leaves clinging to them.

No matter how careful I am, I still manage to get several prickle injuries that annoy me for several days, but I consider the perfume from my roses very much worth the pain.

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The Prairie Garden Committee, Phil Graham, editor, Richard Denesiuk Since 1937 - Western Canada's Only Gardening Annual www.theprairiegarden.ca

Christian Bédard
Rose Hybridizer

For those of us who dream of breeding roses, Christian Bédard would seem to have the 'perfect' job.
A native of Quebec City, he was educated at the University of Montreal. Biology was his initial degree however for his Master's, a grant enabled him to choose his own topic of research and Christian was able to study rose genetics.

Christian's interest began when he was only 11 years old. Possessing one of those rare 'green thumbs', he could grow practically anything. He loved gardening and his grandfather encouraged his interest. At 15, he purchased his first rose, the grandiflora 'Queen Elizabeth' but it did not survive Quebec City's zone 4 winter. This failure encouraged him to study roses and he soon discovered Dr. Svedja's 'Explorer' roses. The first one he planted was 'John Franklin' and gradually he filled his parents' garden with roses and by the age of 20 realised he wanted to be a rose breeder.

Following his graduation from University he spent 4 years at Agriculture Canada with 'Explorer Roses'. He feels Dr. Svedja's program has had the most commercial impact on rose breeding in Canada. Christian explained that she really understood what the general public wanted in roses; hardy, disease resistance and easy care, all characteristics that were ahead of their time in 1968. He speaks with great respect of her, saying she is a 'model' recognised internationally for her work with roses. He feels fortunate to have a copy of her breeding notes and considers them very precious. (Ed's note - Dr. Svedja original notes have a home at the Montreal Botanical Gardens.)

As a young man in his early 20's the constant threat of the breeding program's closure had Christian looking elsewhere for opportunities. He applied to Weeks Roses in California and a job opened in September 2000. His job title includes 'License Project Manager' which involves being in contact with companies that grow and sell their roses around the world.

His job requires knowledge of the entire rose business: what are the trends, what are people buying. They even look at the trends in color that design companies release each year. It is a combination of science, art and business.

In 2008, his first roses were released through Weeks Roses. 'Coffee Bean' (WEKdoudou) is a miniature rose with flowers described as a 'rust and smoke bicolor' with more 'smoke' in cooler weather. The flowers have a mild tea fragrance on plants growing to approx 40cm (16").

Also in 2008, Weeks Roses released 'Cape Diamond' ('Cap Diamant', DARpellerin) Christian bred this rose in his parent's garden in Quebec City and it has been adopted as the official rose of that city in celebration of their 400th Anniversary.. The pink flowers have a spicy fragrance. The grey-green foliage is disease resistant. Winter hardiness is not a problem as it is hardy to zone 3 and can be trained as a shrub or small climber. Christian notes it can take a couple of years to establish.

A second rose, also produced in his parent's garden and available is 'Party Hardy' (DARcanard, Nouvelle France) He has already co-produced an All-American Rose Selection* (AARS) winner, the Grandiflora 'Dick Clark' (WEKfunk). The flowers are described as 'cream and cherry blushed burgundy' with no two being alike. They are a classic hybrid tea form with a moderate scent of cinnamon spice. The foliage is shiny and disease resistant.

As a breeder, Christian feels disease resistance is top priority today. Novelty of color or form is considered. The color must be stable and not fade especially under intense sun. Bushes must produce continuous bloom. Producing roses that excel on the show table is not a priority as today people want roses that look good in the garden.

(Photo on this page: 'Coffee Bean' courtesy of Weeks Roses)

Continued on next page.

Christian Bédard and Dr. Svedja

Below: 'Cape Dimant'

Breeding Statistics:
As a company they make around 850 crosses a year. In the last 2 years, he and Tom Carruth (who has been with Weeks Roses since 1988) split the crosses evenly, about 425 each. This results in 40,000 roses being pollinated producing 250,000 seeds. This work is all done by hand in a controlled greenhouse environment. There are 2 houses; one for the breeding pots and one for the seedlings.

Prior to planting the seeds, they are put in cold storage, in moist paper towels. Called 'stratification', this has been found to increase the germination. They used to leave the seeds for 6 weeks but have found 9 weeks improved the number of seeds that germinate. Still, only 50 - 60% of the seeds will produce plants.

Seeds are planted in the first of second week in January and bloom in late March. The job is done entirely by hand and takes 5 - 6 people 3 weeks. Even before they bloom if powdery mildew appears on foliage they are removed. Of the 225,0000 only 1500 - 1800 make it to the next stage and every day Christian fills a big trashcan with seedlings. For the next stage, each chosen rose is budded to produce to 10 rose bushes and put into the field in California.

These roses are evaluated the following year and any chosen to move on will be budded to produce 25 - 50 plants. Those that perform well will be increased to 250-300 rose bushes. It can take on average 10 years from breeding to market. Before any final decisions are made roses need to be tested outside of California. Christian says there is no easier place to grow roses than California; they don't have Japanese beetle, rose midge or Blackspot. To ensure quality roses, they have testing grounds in Portland, Nashville, outside New York City and in Ohio to cover a range of different climates. The final selections must look good in all the test grounds. Once a rose is selected, it takes 2 years to build the number of plants up to 25,000-30,000

From the initial 225,000 seedlings only 5 - 6 plants make it to market. Weeks Roses is one of the last professional rose breeding programs in the United States and they ship nearly 4 million roses throughout the United States. There are growers in Canada licensed to grow Weeks Roses and I was surprised to find 'Hot Cocoa' and 'Scentimental', growing in my own garden, originated at Weeks. Popular with my rose friends are 'Cinco de Mayo' and 'Julia Child', also from Weeks Roses.

Continued on next page

I enjoyed my talk with Christian and know that producing beautiful roses for our gardens will continue in capable hands.

Visit the website at www.weeksroses.com.
You can find more information about their roses, articles on rose care and a slide show on creating new roses.

*AARS (All-American Rose Selections) has been testing roses since 1938. A network of Official Test Gardens, within select Public Gardens throughout the United States test the potential AARS winning roses. These gardens, which represent a wide range of climates, maintain standards specified by AARS to ensure that roses undergoing testing receive the care normally provided by an average - not necessarily expert - home gardener. Rose specimens are submitted to the gardens each year from rose producers.

'Julia Childs' ('WEKvossutono')
Popular floribunda in southern Ontario from Weeks Roses C. Moore photo

Christine Moore

Photos courtesy of Weeks Roses.

All American Rose Selection 'Dick Clark'
Co-produced by Christain Bédard and Tom Carruth

Roses in an Alberta Garden

Carol Martin

Above: 'Robusta'

Below: 'Caramella Fairytale'

In our November—December 2010 newsletter was a letter from member Carol Martin of Beaverlodge Alberta, requesting advice about what roses to select for her garden. In the January—February newsletter were some good suggestions and now Carol shares with us how her garden is doing. Thank you Carol for sharing your garden with us! Editor

My rose garden is doing really well!! I am totally amazed to see how big some plants are for having started as bare-rooted roses in May!!! Out of 28 that I planted, all but 5 have bloomed, and those five have buds.

The tallest, thorniest, and most-showy is a single red called "Robusta". There are a couple of photos which I took today (August 27, 2011). The flowers are almost 3 inches in diameter and scarlet red. In the sun, I could detect a faint scent, but it may be that my nose was a bit stuffed up since the air was dusty today with farmers haying or harvesting some crops. The longest cane stretches to almost 3 feet tall. Gorgeous!

Here is a list of my roses: From Hortico: Mrs. Lincoln, Golden Unicorn, Christopher Columbus, Rosa Mundi

From Pickering Nurseries: William Baffin, John Davis, Captain Samuel Holland, Morden Centennial, Cuthbert Grant, Winnipeg Parks, Grootendorst Supreme, Mme. Hardy, Pirette Pavement, Bonica, J.P. Connell, Robusta, The Hunter, Dwarf Pavement, Cape Diamond, Prairie Harvest, Rugelda, Petticoat Fairytale, Rosa Cantabrigiensis, Gelber Engel, Ferdinand Pichard, Ch-Ching, Caramella Fairytale, Belle Doria.

I am aware that a few will not survive my winter, and a few were substitutes which are also doubtful, but who knows?

Rugelda is just starting to bloom and it reminds me of the Peace rose - a delicate pink and yellow combination - beautiful but I don't have a photo of it yet. The little fringed flowers of Grootendorst Supreme are really cool! Let's face it, they're all beautiful!!

Anyway, that's about it for now. I have another bed nearby which I just weeded and rototilled, and I have a few more bare-rooted roses on order for next spring. This time they are from Cornhill Nurseries in New Brunswick because they specialize in hardy varieties.

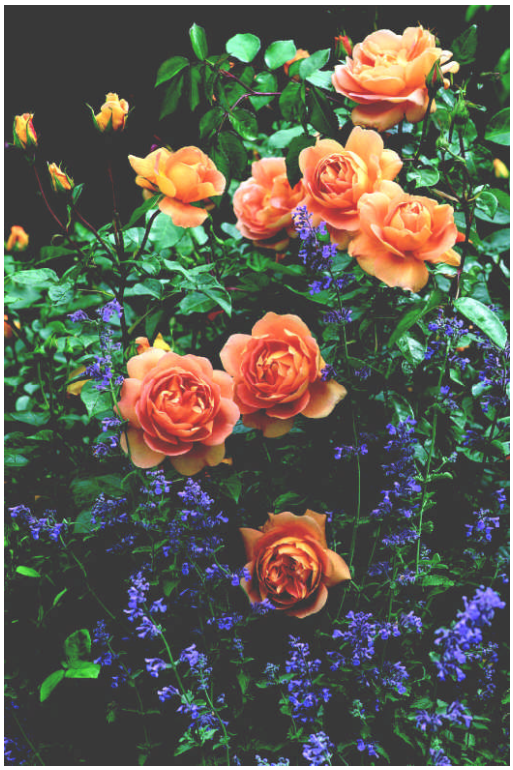
Photos: Carol Martin *continued on next page.*

Roses from Carol's garden
Photo right—'Bonica'
Photo middle—'Rugelda'
Photo bottom—'Winnipeg Parks'

Fragrance in David Austin Roses

Text and photos courtesy of David Austin Roses

Above: Crown Princess Margareta
Below: Pat Austin



Fragrance
David Austin believes that 'fragrance is the other half of the beauty of the rose', so it is not surprising that the English Roses as a group are considered by many to be the most fragrant of all roses. For many years he has invited the perfumer Robert Calkin to help assess and describe the fragrance notes of his proposed new varieties. As a result of this careful attention to the strength, character and quality of each rose's scent, the English Roses now offer the gardener an intriguing array of fragrances, often combining delightful fruity, floral, musky or spicy notes within the classic old rose or tea rose fragrances.

Each English Rose seedling undergoes at least eight years of trials before being considered for release as a new variety. As part of this procedure, Robert Calkin spends time each year exploring the rose trial fields to analyze the character of some of the many promising seedlings which have a fine fragrances but have not yet been released for sale. One of his tips is to learn to explore rose scents by comparing two roses side by side to highlight their differences and similarities. Some English Roses varieties have scents that are quite difficult to classify. For convenience, the English Roses can be grouped into five fragrance types, although there is much interplay between them.

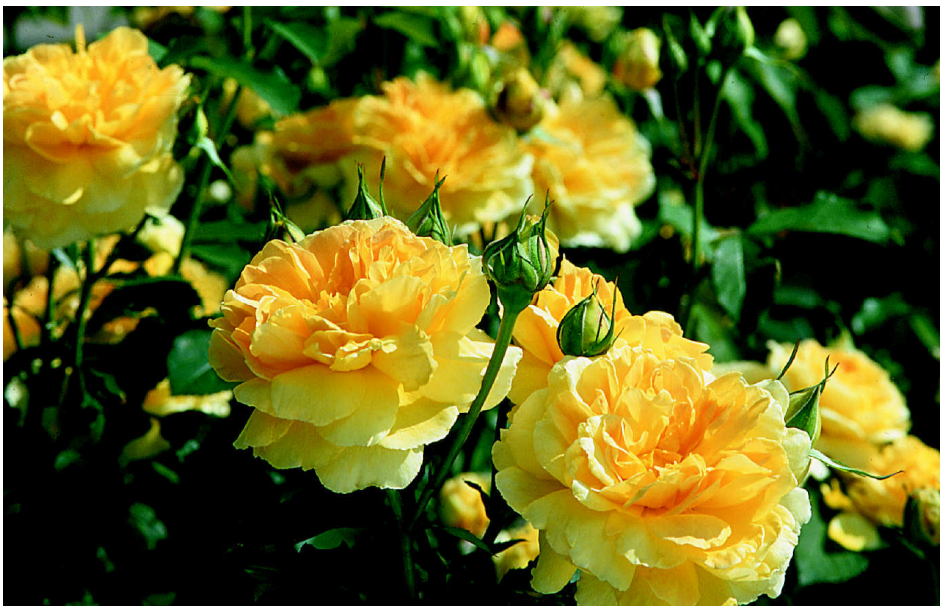
Tea Rose
In the English Roses, the lovely, fresh tea rose scent most frequently appears in the yellows and apricots. One of these is *Crown Princess Margareta* which produces neatly-formed rich apricot rosettes held in wonderfully-scented clusters: tea rose with gorgeous, fruity elements. *Graham Thomas*, voted The World's Favourite Rose, has a fresh tea rose scent with a cool violet character, while *Pat Austin*, named for David Austin's late wife, has a warm, sensuous tea rose fragrance.

Myrrh
The myrrh fragrance has the aromatic, licorice warmth of sweet anise. Amongst roses, it is now almost exclusively confined to the English Roses, although it can be found in other plants, such as Lilac and Hawthorn. Myrrh is perhaps at its nicest when combined with other fragrances. It appeared in 1961 in the first English Rose, *Constance Spry*, as a powerful, spicy top note to the old rose fragrance and has subsequently reappeared in some of the more enduring varieties. *Scepter'd Isle* is an outstanding example, as is *Heritage* with its superbly complex but well-balanced mix of myrrh and carnation with honeyed fruit. *Gentle Hermione* has a fine old rose fragrance with hints of myrrh, while *St Cecilia* blends myrrh with aspects of lemon and almond blossom.

Fruity
The rose is related to many fruits, including apples and pears, which may be part of the reason why fruity notes so frequently appear in the English Roses. *Jude The Obscure* has a powerful fragrance which seems to able to change in character from day to day. It is unusually complex too, combining elements of guava with sweet white wine, although gardeners have also reported notes of candied peel, lychee, grapefruit, honey and vanilla. *Lady Emma Hamilton* has glowing tangerine flowers with yellow-orange highlights, which is appropriate as its deliciously fruity fragrance has notes of citrus fruits, with hints of pear and grape.

Continued on next page

Other fruity English Roses include the rich fragrance of *Abraham Darby* which has a refreshing raspberry sharpness; *Golden Celebration*, a tea rose fragrance with aspects of sauternes wine, lemon and strawberries: *Jubilee Celebration* with fresh lemon and raspberry accents against a fruity background and *Sharifa Asma*, which has a fine and distinctive fragrance with hints of white grape and mulberry.



Musk

Even a small amount of the romantic musk rose scent will perfume the air. *The Generous Gardener's* fragrance is a gorgeous mixture of old rose, musk and myrrh. It has beautifully formed flowers, of the softest shade of apricot pink. Each cup-shaped bloom fully opens to reveal its musky scented golden stamens, creating a water-lily effect.
Molineux has abundant yellow blooms with a classic tea rose fragrance and a musky background.

Old Rose

David Austin's favourite rose fragrance is the classic old rose, probably the most beautiful and haunting of all the rose fragrances. *Gertrude Jekyll* has the quintessential old rose fragrance: strong, rich and perfectly balanced. The gorgeous little scrolled buds open into large, deep pink blooms which have the most beautiful, rounded old rose fragrance of all the English Roses. Other English Roses with strong and fine old rose scents include *Harlow Carr* an exceptionally vigorous and healthy variety which produces masses of small but perfect rose-pink blooms with a strong old rose fragrance. *The Mayflower* is a dainty rose with charming pink rosettes and a fine, very strong old rose fragrance, which is shared by its pure white sport, *Susan Williams-Ellis*.

Photo above: Molineux

Below: Scepter'd I'sle

Recommended varieties for cold winter climates

The English Roses adapt remarkably well to different climates around the world, from the cold climates of Russia and Canada to the heat of Australia and the southern states of America. Cold winters are very challenging for some varieties, but fortunately, there are a number of English Roses that can be grown very successfully. In general, all David Austin's shrub roses are hardy to USDA zone 5 and a number to zone 4. Good winter protection will help the roses to survive in harsh conditions. Traditional methods of protecting roses include leaning conifer branches against them, or building a mound of wood chips, leaves or soil around the base of the stems to a depth of between 6-12".

English Roses that are hardy in zone 4 include:

A Shropshire Lad, Abraham Darby, Charlotte, Cottage Rose, Crocus Rose, Crown Princess Margareta, Gentle Hermione, Gertrude Jekyll, L.D. Braithwaite, Mary Rose, Scepter'd Isle, Sharifa Asma, Sophy's Rose, St Cecilia, St Swithun, Susan Williams-Ellis, The Mayflower and Winchester Cathedral.

In cold winter areas, David Austin recommends the bare root is planted deeply, with the bud union 2-3" below ground level. This is an important way to protect a rose but will also encourage the rose to develop its own roots.

Continued on next page

David Austin Roses continued

Last year, the company also introduced a collection of own root roses, now extended to 20 varieties. These are particularly useful for cold winter areas as if stems do get cut back to the ground by frosts, own root roses are much more likely to survive. The own root plants are very similar in size to those budded onto Dr Huey and meet the same grading standards as budded stock.

If you have been inspired to try some English Roses in your garden, the good news is that all the varieties listed in David Austin's US mail order collection are now also available to Canadian gardeners. To request a copy of his new 2012 catalogue, e-mail US@davidaustinroses.com or order online at www.davidaustinroses.com

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Earth-Kind® Roses

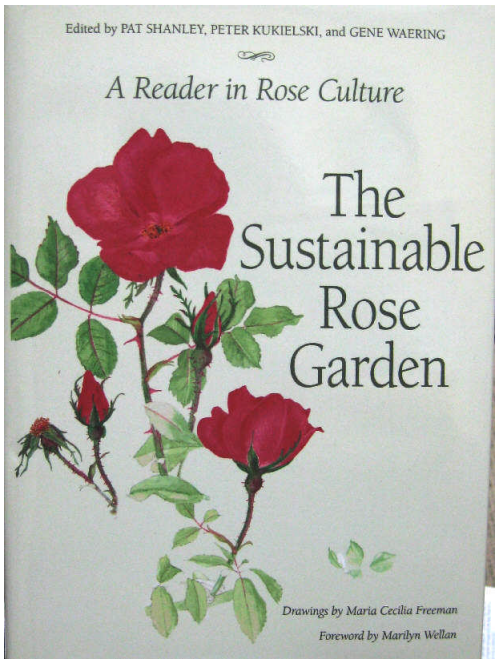
The "Earth-Kind®' designation is bestowed by the Texan AgriLife Extension Service, (part of the Texas A&M System). It comes after a multiyear study of roses involving extensive regional field trials. Only rose cultivars possessing an extremely high level of landscape performance, coupled with outstanding disease resistance and insect tolerance and/or resistance may receive the designation.

Part of the requirements involve roses that: tolerate highly alkaline clay soils, grow with a 98% reduction in fungicides and pesticides, grow without commercial fertilizers, grow with at least a 70% reduction in supplemental irrigation once the plants are established (plants are mulched with 3-4" layer of shredded hardwood on the soil surface.

Additional information on Earth-Kind® Roses is available at the following website:
http://EarthKindRoses.tamu.edu

Current Roses with the Earth-Kind® Designation

'Belinda's Dream'	Shrub
'Caldwell Pink'	Polyantha
'Carefree Beauty'	Shrub
'Cecile Brunner'	Polyantha
'Climbing Pinkie'	Climbing polyantha
'Ducher'	China
'Duchess de Brabant'	Tea Rose
'Else Poulsen'	Floribunda
'Georgetown Tea'	Tea Rose
'Knock Out'® (single red)	Shrub
'La Marne'	Polyantha
'Marie Daly'	Polyantha
'Mms Antoine Mari'	Tea Rose
'Monsieur Tillier'	Tea Rose
'Mrs. Dudley Cross'	Tea Rose
'Mutabilis'	China
'New Dawn'	Large Flowered Climber
'Perle d'Or'	Polyantha
'Reve d'Or'	Polyantha
'Sea Foam'	Shrub
'Souvenir de St. Anne's'	Bourbon
'Spice'	China
'The Fairy'	Polyantha


Edited by PAT SHANLEY, PETER KUKIELSKI, and GENE WAERING
A Reader in Rose Culture
The Sustainable Rose Garden
Drawings by Maria Cecilia Freeman
Foreword by Marilyn Wellan

"The Sustainable Rose Garden"
A Reader in Rose Culture

Edited by Pat Shanley, Peter Kukielski and Gene Waering.

Ask 38 leading rosarians to contribute articles about growing roses in a new culture and the result is "The Sustainable Rose Garden." There are articles on a variety of topics: how does a public garden cope with pesticide bans, creating a rooftop rose garden, soil and water management, new thoughts on fertilizing. Add to that drawings by Maria Cecilia Freeman and beautiful color photography and this book should be considered for your rose library.

Hardcover, 271 pages Published in 2010
Price $34.95 Plus shipping. Contact Pat Shanley
Manhatten Rose Society, P.O. Box 442, Locust Valley N.Y.
U.S.A. 11560 pshanley@aol.com

Review by Christine Moore

Rose Garden at the Montreal Botanical Garden
by *Claire Laberge*

The Montreal Botanical Garden is an important tourist attraction, with close to a million visitors yearly. The Garden present a collection of more than 21 thousand taxa, housed ten exhibition greenhouses and some 30 thematic outdoor gardens, including the Rose garden created in 1976, on the occasion of the Olympic Games in Montreal. However, roses have been cultivated at the Botanical Garden almost since its creation in 1931 by Brother Marie-Victorin, the founder of the Botanical garden.

A huge two ton sculpture, "The lion" guard the main entrance of the rose garden. This bronze was a gift from the city of Lyon in France to mark the 350th anniversary of the founding of Montreal in 1992.
The Rose garden covers an area of 2,5 hectares, with a collection of 10,000 roses selected from wild species, old gardens roses and modern roses. You will discover more than a thousand varieties in about 100 beds, producing a symphony of colors and exquisite scents from the ends of May to the frost of October. The rose garden is distinguished by its modern layout divided into sections illustrating the history and development of roses.

The original section of the garden, a 'four seasons' arrangements designed by the architect Gaétan Bilodeau contains a succession of landscapes, textures and colors. Curving pathways along numerous rose beds reveal more than 220 varieties of tender roses. These Hybrid Teas and Floribundas are characterized by their compact growth, vividly colored blooms and their continuous bloom from June to October. A selection of classical, novelty and award-winning cultivars of hybrid tea, floribunda and grandiflora are grown and show for their garden performance and their blooming qualities and resistance to disease.

Since 1992, the rose garden was enlarged: 105 species of wild roses and 180 varieties of old garden roses and 540 modern roses were added, completing the genealogical tree.

Cultivated wild species in the rose garden at the botanic garden are a living genetic bank. The **Rosa Collection** of Montreal Botanical Garden has been granted recognition as an **NAPCC Collection of Significance**; in other words, the '**North American Plant Collection Consortium'** administrated by the **American Public Garden Association** designate our Rosa collection as a reference for North America. **Wild species** are ancestors of modern roses, classified in section by their floral and foliage details, these rose shrubs with single (five petals) flowers are powerfully perfumed.

Continued on next page

Old gardens roses grown in the garden have been selected from among the main recognized classes. Among many authors, old garden roses are defined as being hybridized before 1867, the year of the creation of the first modern Hybrid tea, 'La France'. Each category of old roses has a name which refers to and shows the morphological characteristics of its ancestor rose. For example, gallicas have *Rosa gallica* as the original parent. Old roses are distinguished by their vigorous growth and their incomparable charm of their flowers.

Modern shrub roses are well represented, including Agriculture Canada's 'Explorer' and 'Parkland' series, including the creations of Isabella Preston, Henry Marshall, Lynn Collicutt and Felicitas Svejda, among others.
We also have many of the roses of early private Canadian breeders altogether, we have more than 150 Canadian varieties, some of which are very rare. In the section, others hardy roses to discovered through rugosa hybrid, spinosissima hybrid, moyessi hybrid, moschata hybrid and roses developed by Dr Griffith Buck, David Austin, Louis Lens and Kordes.

To take up the challenge of our northern location we had to adopt an excellent winter protection for tender roses and climber. We used polyfoam blanket.

Since 13 years, we experiment with integrated pest management at the rose garden to prevent pest and disease. Until 2005, the entire rose garden, a monoculture of 10,000 roses is treated with success in spite of a reduction of 90% of chemical products.

The rose garden at the Montreal Botanical garden joined the great rose gardens of the world on May 28, 2004 when it received the 'Award of Excellence'. This prize was created in 1994 by the World Federation of Roses Societies.

Welcome to Montreal.

Photo above shows roses protected with polyform blanket, ready for winter.

Photo left; part of the rose garden.

Photos courtesy of Montreal Botanical Gardens.

Unfinished Business

The last few years have been very challenging for the CRS Board. In 2009 we did not have anyone willing to take on the job of producing an 'Annual'. Our 2010 Edition was plagued with technical difficulties and early in 2011, we realized we would have to cancel it. We wanted to acknowledge The outstanding job the Vancouver Rose Society did in organizing the WFRS Convention. In 2010 the Québec Rose Society invited CRS members to celebrate their 20th Anniversarry and their report is on the following page.

2009 Vancouver Hosts the WFRS Convention

The Vancouver Rose Society took on the task of hosting the World Federation of Rose Societies Convention and what a wonderful job they did. There were flower shows, speakers as well as pre and post convention tours. Over 500 delegates from around the world attended and they gave the Convention glowing compliments. The event was a combined effort of Brenda Viney, Darlene Sanders (Co-chairs) and Sea to Sky Meeting Management.

Special thank must be made to their Planning Committee of Volunteers:
Alec Globe, Bob Meighen, Brad Jalbert, Dale Akerstrom, Gail Robertson, Janet Wood, Lesley Finlay, Marjorie Cullerne, Patrick White, Sarah Lowis. We also thank John Schneider for his help for the first two years before having to step down due to health problems.

'Thank you' also to early Sponsors:
Brad Jalbert of Select Roses and Bill McCarthy (WPJ McCarthy & Company)

Complete coverage of this convention is in the September 2009 edition of the World Federation of Rose Societies newsletter, which is included on the 2011 CRS Annual CD.

Anne Graber Honored
WFRS "World Rose Award"

Anne Graber is a world-recognized rosarian and one of Canada's foremost rose experts. Anne was Secretary of the Canadian Rose Society from 1990 to 2000. In that capacity she was in constant contact with almost all Canadian rosarians and hundreds of others around the world, and won their admiration and respect for her rose knowledge, efficiency and charming personality.

Anne has long been involved in Heritage roses and has served on the World Federation of Rose Societies Heritage Rose Committee for the last nine years. She is still a member of that committee. Anne has attended eight WFRS Rose Convention and has been an alternate delegate at several of them. Her countless rose friends around the world are delighted that her ongoing efforts on behalf of the rose have been recognized by the WFRS with the World Rose Award.

Left: Paul Graber
Center: Anne Graber
Right: Phillip Webster

ROSEXPO NATIONAL 2010

In celebration of the 20th Anniversary of 'Société des Roses du Québec Rose Society', the society hosted a special event open to Rosarians across Canada. CRS members from Victoria B.C., Calgary and the Toronto area attended the June event. There was a lovely rose show, tours of the Montreal Botanical Gardens, commercial exhibits, wonderful dinners and a tour of local gardens.

Following is a report from the society's newsletter, volume 20, # 6

ROSEXPO NATIONAL 2010

C'est en juin dernier, le 18, 19 et 20 juin , que la SRQRS a célébré ses 20 ans d'existence, lors de ROSEXPO NATIONAL qui s'est déroulée au Jardin Botanique de Montréal.

Ce fut une joie de voir la Reine des fleurs "LA ROSE" réunir des passionnés de différentes régions du Canada : Colombie-Britannique, Alberta, Ontario et évidemment du Québec. Les célébrations ont débutées vendredi en soirée avec la reconnaissance du travail accomplie par Dr. Felicitas Svedja par le Jardin Botanique de Montréal, la soirée s'est poursuivie par une conférence de Mme Joyce Fleming intitulé « Hybridizing Disease Resistant Rose », elle nous a présenté ses enfants chéris : ses roses. La soirée s'est terminée par un vin de bienvenue au complexe d'accueil du jardin, accompagné de discussion chaleureuse, de retrouvailles et de création de nouveaux liens.

Le samedi le 19 et dimanche 20 juin, les salles du Jardin Botanique accueillaient l'exposition ROSEXPO NATIONAL. Les tables débordaient de roses au grand plaisir des visiteurs. Le samedi après-midi, Claire Laberge, horticultrice responsable de la roseraie du Jardin Botanique, a fait découvrir la beauté de ce coin de jardin. Cette journée s'est terminée par un souper entre amis avec projections d'images d'archives, relatant les 20 ans d'existence de la Société.

Le dimanche, le comité organisateur avait planifié un voyage en autocar afin de visiter des jardins dont les roses étaient en vedette et un brunch dans un manoir construit au 19ième siècle. De retour à notre point de départ à la fin de l'après-midi au Jardin Botanique, pour la remise des trophées de la Société des Roses du Québec et de la Société Canadienne de Rose.

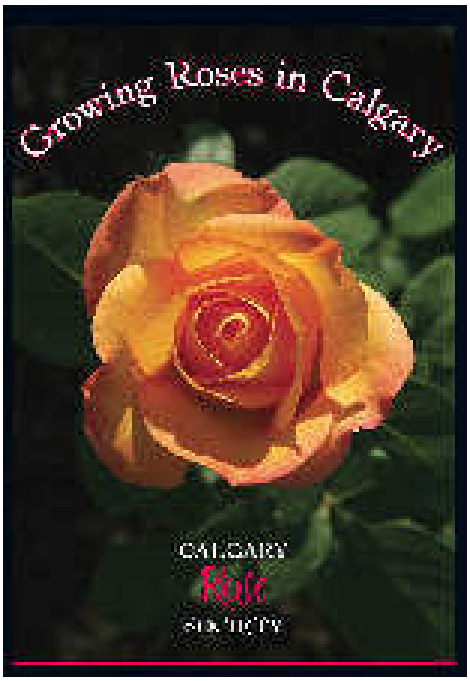
Ces célébrations ont été un moment de réjouissances. Grâce à ces trois jours de fête, les participants ont eu la chance d'échanger avec des rosiéristes venus de différents coins du pays, de créer ou de renouveler des liens déjà existants. Ce fut l'occasion de retrouvailles appréciées de tous.

REMERCIEMENT
Bonjour Diane, Serge, Lucie, Claire, Tania, Michael, Ken et tous les membres, Malgré mon retard à vous écrire, je veux vous remercier très sincèrement de l'accueil inespéré que vous m'avez fait lors de la journée du 20ième de la SRQRS. Ce fut une joie réelle de vous revoir et surtout de constater que l'enthousiasme est toujours présent, que la passion des roses vous unit encore. Toute cette grande organisation dans une atmosphère détendue faisait plaisir à voir.

J'ai été reçue comme une reine et c'est avec un immense bonheur que je vous ai tous retrouvés. Je veux vous remercier du fond du coeur de m'avoir procuré cette joie profonde. Merci aussi à tous les membres qui travaillent dans l'ombre et qui sont si importants car ils exécutent des tâches parfois ingrates mais toujours nécessaires. Ils sont les piliers de la Société et je veux ici reconnaître leur rôle. Certains, qui ne me connaissaient pas, m'ont ouvert leurs bras et offert leur sourire très spontanément. C'est cela, la générosité qu'apporte l'amour des roses. Merci sincère à tous.
De tout coeur,
Micheline

Reports from Local Rose Societies.

Ed: I tried to get reports from all the societies, however a few societies missing. I hope they will be included next year.



The Calgary Rose Society has produced a book "Growing Roses in Calgary". It was reviewed in our 2010 Nov-Dec newsletter.

The book is priced at $25 Cdn. plus shipping charges. It is being distributed by the Calgary Rose Society directly.

Books may be ordered from Brian Rottenfusser, 593 Silvergrove Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta, T3B 4R9 or e-mail to b.rottenfusser@shaw.ca Postage costs may be determined by contacting the Society at the foregoing snail/email address or by visiting their website www.calgaryrosesociety.ca where sample pages of the book are also on display.

The Calgary Rose Society started the year off with a brunch at the Glenmore Inn in southwest Calgary. Twenty-six members attended and there was lots of rose talk, as usual. The Society also had to find a new location to hold their meetings; after looking at a few places in Calgary, it was decided to rent a room from the Scandinavian Club in northwest Calgary.

The February meeting was our first held there. Our speaker was John Duncan from Greengate Garden Center and he talked about pesticide use and gave us some environmentally friendly alternatives to try.

The Society held our Annual General Meeting in April. The guest speakers, Judy Trudeau and Richard Clayton, presented a slide show that recalled their travels through the rose gardens of England and Wales in August 2010. Also in April, the Calgary Horticultural Society had their Annual Spring Show and Sale at Spruce Meadows. The Calgary Rose Society brought in about 150 large roses and 250 minis for this sale, which is one of our major fund raising events of the year. As well, we featured our new book "Growing Roses in Calgary" and sold 50 copies. Brian Rottenfusser presented one of the How To clinics and Abbi Singh was at the Ask an Expert desk. We saw steady traffic past our booth in the Marketplace tent and by the end of the show, we had sold all but 7 of our mini roses and 36 large roses.

In May, we held our mini rose sale on Mother's Day Weekend. Once again, we are able to meet with the public, talk roses, sell memberships and our book.

At the June meeting this past year, we had three of our judges do a presentation on Preparing for the Rose Show.

The 39th Annual Calgary Rose Show was held July 22 and 23 at North Hill Mall. Entries were down this year, in part due to a hail storm that hit many areas of the city just 3 days before. However the quality of entries was still very good and the competition was fierce in many categories. In particular, I thought that the arrangements were outstanding this year. Linda McGregor won both Queen of the Show with 'Konrad Henkel' and Runner Up to Queen of the Show with 'Elina'. Cherie Lowe won the Calgary Rose Society Award For Most Points in the Show by a Calgary Rose Society Member. Kyla Arden-Maki won the Award for Mini Queen of the Show with her rose 'Raspberry Punch'.

September was our Gala Event where the Rose Show trophies were presented. At this meeting, we also elected a new president, Catherine Williams. The Society has not had a president since April so Catherine was willing to let her name stand.

At the October meeting, our guest speaker, Lea Romanouski, a floral artist, gave us a knowledgeable and entertaining presentation on arranging roses. In short time, she made three beautiful arrangements, which were then raffled off to some lucky society members.

In November, we hope to have a local apiarist talk on bees and how to attract them to our gardens.

The Saskatchewan Rose Society
Closing the Society

From the President's Pen

There is a time and a season for all things, even something as good as the Saskatchewan Rose Society.

We had a long and very thorough discussion as to what we are proposing to do with the SRS. Without the devotion and skills of Arnie Pittao at the helm of the newsletter, this motion would have been made much earlier. Thank you, Arnie.

I would also like to thank all the past presidents, board members and editors for their time spent with SRS.

If you would like to access past issues of incredible rose information in the newsletter, contact Arnie. There is a CD available for a small charge.
The SRS evolved before the easy access to the Internet and the publication plethora of books about growing roses in the Prairie climate. We have learned much together over the years and we could take some of the credit for the use of hardy roses in public landscapes. We have learned about passionate prairie rosarians who otherwise may have been forgotten by gardeners in small city plots or those who garden in large farm yards. Since February of 1998, the Saskatchewan Rose Society has filled a gardening specialty niche.

Members are encourage to attend the AGM to help finalize the Society's plans.

Brenda Winny, President

Greater Toronto Rose & Garden Society

The first event we participated in was 'Jump on Spring' held at the Toronto Botanical Gardens in February. Most of the Horticultural, Garden Clubs and specialty societies have booths to advertise their society. There were speaker, demonstration and plants to purchase. GT Rose volunteers sold our (famous) rose soap and answered rose queries all day.

March was our first meeting and we showed an interesting slide presentation 'Rose Gardens in Toronto in the 1980's. This presentation is from the CRS audio/visual library. The next month, James Graham, spoke on vegetable gardening and entertained us with many helpful tips. We also had a book sale with garden books donated by members.

In May one of our members, Mark Disero gave a good presentation on how to propagate roses from cuttings. In June we had hosta expert Bob Leask, who also brought wonderful hostas to sell.

We had a very unusual spring in Toronto and we were concerned about our rose show June 18th. The show turned out to be lovely, many roses categories full, except for a shortage of hybrid teas.

Jack Kent, a Daylily grower and hybridizer spoke to us in September. He had everyone craving his unusual daylilies after his presentation. At the same time, our first 'members choice' rose show was held. It A good turnout, as many of us wanted to show off our late bloomers!

October's meeting and a gorgeous slide presentation by our own Christine Moore, documenting our prize winners from our June show. Much discussion took place about the nasty Japanese Beetle we have inherited!

Our last meeting of the year will be in November. We have Rene Schmidt of Palatine Nursery as our guest speaker. This is also our awards night, election of officers and a finger food pot luck supper.

It will be the end of my first year as president of GT Rose and what a wonderful year it has been!

Iris Hazen

Photo left: Part of Greater Toronto Rose & Garden Show Held at "Shops on Steeles", Steeles Ave, just west of HWY 404.

The Hamilton and Burlington Rose Show 2011

The 54th Rose Show of The Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society was staged in the Main Foyer of the Royal Botanical Gardens on Saturday, June 25th and Sunday, June 26th, 2011.

This year the Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society was host to The Canadian Rose Society National Trophy Classes competition, which was open to paid up members of The Canadian Rose Society, CRS Affiliates and the Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society members.

There were seven CRS Trophy Classes open for competition. 12 exhibitors placed 18 entries in 4 of the 7 classes.

Twenty-two exhibitors placed 259 entries in 85 of the 143 classes of The Hamilton and Burlington Rose Society section of the Rose Show.

Following are the top 7 award winners

Best in Show:	'Westerland'	Exhibitor	Judy Zinni
Queen of the Show	'Valencia'89'	Exhibitor	Ray Hopkins
Prince of the Show	'City of Welland'	Exhibitor	Jason Bank
Princess of the Show	'Moonstone'	Exhibitor	Jason Bank
Miniature Queen of the Show	'Parade'	Exhibitor	Joyce Turner
Miniature Prince of the Show	'Danielle'	Exhibitor	Stephen Bower
Miniature Princess of the Show	'Pirate's Loot'	Exhibitor	Elizabeth Schleicher

Society members were on hand during the two-day exhibition of roses to welcome the general public, answer their questions and encourage them to join a rose society in their area.

I would like to express thanks to the following people for their efforts in making the 2011 Rose Show happen.

The RBG staff for their help, patience and understanding
George Pagowski for officially opening the show
The Judges and Clerks who selected the winning blooms
Lindsay Wilcox who was our rose consultant
Helmut Schleicher for score keeping
Elizabeth Schleicher for preparing the schedule and taking the photos
George Pagowski for preparing the schedule cover and art work
Elaine Sparrow, President for her advice and consul

Every year the concern arises if there will be roses for the show. This year was no exception, as the unusually cold spring delayed the start of growth. However the concerns were put to rest as the bounty of blooms arrived in the staging area, were prepped and placed in their respective classes. Our passion for roses seems to bring out the best in our gardens. Thank you to all for your help and participation.
Happy Rose Growing

Lorne Sparrow, Rose Show Chair

The Canadian Rose Society
National Trophy Classes, 2011

Held at the Hamilton Burlington Rose Society Show

CRS Class 1 Three (3) one bloom per stem Hybrid Teas, any colour or colours, shown in one container.
ROYAL YORK CHALLENGE TROPHY
1 entry 1st place ' Hot Princess, Moonstone, Folklore'
Exhibitor Jason Bank

CRS Class 2 Five (5) one bloom per stem Hybrid Teas, any colour or colours, shown in one container.
PAUL B. SAUNDERS TROPHY
0 entries

CRS Class 3 Three (3) cultivars of Floribunda roses, one spray of each
P.L. WHYTOCK TROPHY
1 entry Entry disqualified, not according to schedule

CRS Class 4 Three (3) specimen blooms or three (3) sprays of Climbing roses, shown in one container.
THE HARKNESS CUP
1 entry Entry disqualified, not according to schedule

CRS Class 5 One (1) specimen bloom or one (1) spray of any rose originating in Canada.
HUGH A. ROSE TROPHY
15 entries 1st place 'Emily Carr' Exhibitor Elizabeth Schleicher
overall winner of subdivided class as shown below

CRS Class 5A *Specimens*
3 entries
1st 'Emily Carr' exhibited by Elizabeth Schleicher
2nd 'Henry Hudson' exhibited by Helmut Schleicher
3rd 'Hope for Humanity' exhibited by Nancy and Lindsay Wilcox

CRS Class 5B *Sprays*
12 entries
1st 'John Cabot' exhibited by Gwen Wilby
2nd 'Rosy Vision' exhibited by George Pagowski
3rd 'John Cabot' exhibited by Maria Scarpati
HM 'Rosy Vision' exhibited by Stephen Bower

CRS Class 6 English Box of six (6) Hybrid Tea and/or Grandiflora specimen blooms, six distinct cultivars, shown in boxes supplied by the C.R.S. No foliage permitted
PETER MCDOUGALL CHALLENGE TROPHY 0 entries

CRS Class 7 Twelve (12) specimen blooms of Miniature Roses, no more than two of any one cultivar, shown in one container supplied by the exhibitor
K.G. LAVER TROPHY 0 entries

12 Exhibitors entered 18 exhibits into the Canadian Rose Society classes

CRS Class 1
Three (3) one bloom per stem Hybrid Teas, any colour or colours, shown in one container.
1st[t] place ' Hot Princess, Moonstone, Folklore'
Award presented by CRS Board Members:
George Pagowski (left) and Stephen Bower (centre) to Jason Bank (right)

CRS Class 5 One (1) specimen bloom or one (1) spray of any rose originating in Canada.
HUGH A. ROSE TROPHY
1st place 'Emily Carr' Exhibitor Elizabeth Schleicher (center)
George Pagowski on left, Stephen Bower on right

Photo above: The Atrium at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington Ontario.

Photo above: Emily Carr

Photos Courtesy of Elizabeth Schiecher

"Aren't We All Old Wives About Our Roses"

Sean McCann
Blackrock, Co. Dublin Ireland
Reprinted from the CRS 1977 Annual

Editor's note: Sean McCann is an author and lecturer and until recently a regular contributor to the American Rose Society magazine. I hope you'll enjoy this article.

"You Know", said the exhibitor to me in the middle of a crowded hall, "the best roses are grown in a rhubarb patch." After a suitable pause to let the words sink in he went on: "The roses thrive in that sort of company…. I heard of one man who got a bevy of roses, great roses, from his rhubarb patch."
No doubt some of those listening took themselves home and are now growing roses and rhubarb together—maybe even successfully. And if you ever hear it offered as a good combination, smile gently and take yourself away… for it's an old wives' tale or, better still, an old rosarian's tale.

The truth is that I was the one who grew the "great" roses in the rhubarb patch...but maybe I should qualify that story.

It happened like this. One Saturday morning before an autumnal show I took a quick look around the garden to see if there might be an overnight miracle rose about. And there was! A superb bloom of 'Perfecta', huge, full and highcentered and in all the glorious shades of colour the rose is capable of...and it was half hidden on a long weak stem under the leaf of rhubarb.

At the show it won the best bloom award… and soon afterwards I wrote about it in Garden News…so an old wives' tale was born.

Now isn't it true that when it comes to roses we are all old wives… we pass on incredible stories and bits of gossip without ever really checking their authenticity, hoping I suppose that the other fellow will do so and that when we hear the story again, it will be proved.

Oh, how gullible can you get! In matters such as this, we are like the young rosarian who had been told that the great Dean Hole said there are more gold medals in a load of manure than you get anywhere else.
A slight misinterpretation of the words… but it didn't stop our young friend from rooting through the next load of manure that arrived at his home!

But the old Englishman's comment: "Gold in muck don't grow on its own" should have been added.

Where into all this would our angler-rosarian fit? You know the fanatics who take home left-over fish and bury it in the bottom of the rose bed. It so happens that dogfish are the throw-away species in Irish waters and I have one friend who has a dogfish graveyard at the bottom of his rose beds.

I expect some of you are now waiting for me to say that he wins everything at the rose shows… well, I won't. Truth to tell his roses are quite disappointing.

No—not even a record breaking salmon buried in its full majesty would give good roses. No doubt it would help—eventually—but it would be useless without the old prescription of care and devotion.

During the few years I've been involved with roses, I've heard all sorts of old wives' tales for getting better blooms, for keeping away the greenfly and for defeating blackspot. Lord be good to me but I've even
tried some of them!

Parsley to keep away greenfly? That's a fairly general one. Ask yourself have you ever seen parsley covered with greenfly? Neither have I. But you have, I'm sure, heard the other old gardening quotation that
parslety grows only where the wife rules the home. You have—and you're still prepared to cover the garden in parsley? In a garden of 700 or so roses, do you think I'd have the time to even try? I find parsley a devil to get growing—I do manage it in the greenhouse where I tested the greenfly theory out. But nobody seems to have told the greenfly of the experiment. They didn't go near the parsley but they still enjoyed their rose of the day. They had a life of Riley—undeterred by an old wives' tale.

Continued on next page

There's another old yarn that tells you to put garlic in the rose beds to keep away blackspot (oh, you heard it was to keep away the greenfly—better check on whose old wife you were cavorting with). But *they* never say on what scale you should plant it. I know one lady who imported wild garlic into her rose beds and spent the next five years trying to rid the place of this rampant immigrant. Domestic garlic will grow well with roses—so too will lettuce, onions, radishes and other top of the soil type vegetables but I've never found any truth in their ability to keep away insects or diseases—or indeed to improve the quality of the roses.

It is true that boiled rhubarb leaves keep away greenfly (I've never tried it so I'm not knocking it) mightn't it also be true that boiled tomato plants would control blackspot?

I've heard so many tales of this type during my rose years that I've forgotten most of them. I've forgotten them on purpose… I couldn't bear to try them out… and I have a real fear of finishing up a mental wreck trying to remember whether it is marigolds for greenfly or mint for…

You haven't heard of mint? Do you want a root of the stuff? Not if you're in your right mind you don't. It's the creepiest creep of them all; I'll put up with caterpillars galore in future rather than put in a mint root to "keep away the bugs". It will outgrow any weed anywhere— maybe it would be useful in a sheep farmer's garden… the lambs might be allergic to it.

And have you ever heard of Alecost? Yes, I too thought it had something to do with the price of beer but no—it's merely a garden herb and said to be the deterrent to rose rust! And when it has grown with all the ability of a mint plant, you'll wish you had the rust back (that's if it has ever gone away!)

Go on and tell me your own specialty tale—but please don't ask me to try it. I know there are times when you have to experiment it only to prepare for the day when someone hands you a pair of wings and you have to try them in case you're being had… Maybe I should try more often. Certainly, there are instances where a little investigation has brought a completely different light to a story.

There was the famous case of the old gardener who constantly won the rose section of his village show. The tales of the magnificent roses spread far and wide. Repeated and repeated they became a legend—and then one day a national rose judge decided to visit the village show just to see how good these roses were.

Sure enough when he arrived at the village hall, he was told that the old man had indeed won the box class for six specimen blooms. He went to the table not sure what to expect and got the shock of his life. Three good roses adorned the box—and in the back were three large vermillion blooms. But they weren't roses—they were begonias!

Maybe they still talk about the legend of the old man's roses in the village—but you see how dangerous it is to take another man's word for it?

And what about all those suggestions to keep your roses from wilting? Sugar, aspirin, starch—and what about whisky?

A story is told on the highest authority (it was repeated in the RNRS Rose Annual many years ago) of the famous exhibitor who used to add a good measure of whisky to each bowl of water being prepared to go on show. He did until word got to a countryman of my own. Deftly, when the exhibitor's back was turned, he emptied the water and whisky into a more appreciative environment—his stomach. Result—wilted roses, angry showman and drunken Irishman!

The moral of this story is that the exhibitor must surely have gone on ever afterwards believing that whisky was the real answer to preserving blooms; without it his had died. Why not try it yourself—but make sure I'm not around! It might end up as a sobering version of an old wives' tale.

'Prairie Celebration'
C. Moore photo

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